

House File 2333 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2333

BY GERHOLD, BRADLEY, and BUSH

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to bicyclists' right-of-way at certain
2 crosswalks, and making penalties applicable.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 321.327, subsection 1, Code 2022, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 1. Where traffic-control signals are not in place
4 or in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the
5 right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield,
6 to a pedestrian or a person riding a bicycle crossing the
7 roadway within any marked crosswalk or within any unmarked
8 crosswalk at an intersection, except as otherwise provided in
9 this chapter.

10

EXPLANATION

11 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
12 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

13 Under current law, a person riding a bicycle on a highway
14 is subject to the provisions of Code chapter 321 (motor
15 vehicles and law of the road) and has all the rights and
16 duties applicable to the driver of a vehicle, except those
17 provisions which by their nature can have no application or
18 those provisions for which specific exceptions have been set
19 forth regarding police bicycles (Code section 321.234). In
20 addition, current law penalizes certain actions against persons
21 riding a bicycle, such as steering a vehicle unreasonably close
22 to the bicycle or projecting an object at the bicycle (Code
23 section 321.281).

24 This bill requires the driver of a vehicle to yield the
25 right-of-way to a person riding a bicycle crossing the roadway
26 within any marked crosswalk, or within any unmarked crosswalk
27 at an intersection, in the same manner required when yielding
28 to pedestrians where traffic-control signals are not in place
29 or in operation.

30 A driver of a vehicle convicted of a violation under the
31 bill is guilty of a simple misdemeanor punishable by a \$135
32 scheduled fine. By operation of law, if the violation causes a
33 serious injury, a court could impose an additional fine of \$500
34 or suspend the person's driver's license for not more than 90
35 days, or both. If the violation causes a death, a court could

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1 impose an additional fine of \$1,000 or suspend the person's
2 driver's license for not more than 180 days, or both (Code
3 section 321.482A).